(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to deal with faculty shortage in various Central and State universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) A Task Force on faculty shortage and design of Performance Appraisal System has been constituted by the Government on 14th September, 2009 with the following terms of reference:-

(i) to assess the existing faculty shortage in die country in regard to technical and professional education and University education.

(ii) to assess the requirement of quality faculty in regard to technical and professional education and University education in the remaining period of the Eleventh Plan and the Twelfth Plan considering the need to achieve the targeted Gross Enrolment Ratio by the terminal year of the Twelfth Plan.

(iii) to suggest remedial policies and other measures to meet the estimated shortfall in quality faculty.

(iv) to design an develop a robust, objective, transparent and multi-source Performance Appraisal System to provide a framework to enable performance evaluation of faculty throughout the country in regard to technical education, professional education and University education.

(c) To meet the shortage of teachers in Centrally funded higher and technical education institutes under the purview of the Ministry of Human Resource Development and to make teaching attractive the age of superannuation of teachers has been raised from 62 years to 65 years. The Government has also taken a decision to revise the pay scales of teacher in the universities and colleges in order to attract and retain talented youth in teaching profession. These steps would ensure that over time the best talent comes into the academic professions through a process of tightening entry and liberalizing pay.

Recognition for primary teachers' training institute

†3325. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with a view to promote Hindi in West Bengal, a primary teachers' training institute was established at Salkia, Howrah in the sixties with the financial help of Central Government and State Government;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that it has not been recognized by National Council for Teacher Education;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the reasons for not providing the desired recognition to the said institute?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Salkia Primary Teachers' Training Institute was established in 1968 by the Government of West Bengal, with support of the Central Government, for conducting a one year teacher training course in Hindi medium.

(c) to (e) The Salkia Primary Teachers' Training Institute had applied to Eastern Regional Committee (ERC) of the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) for grant of recognition for a two years Primary Teachers Training course on 11th March, 1997, but the recognition was refused on account of non-availability of Principal and staff and lack of instructional facilities. Subsequently, the institution applied for validation of their qualification in 2006 which could not be considered by the NCTE as the institution did not submit the requisite fee and compensation as per the provisions laid down in the National Council for Teacher Education (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, 2006. The institution again applied in October, 2008 for recognition of a two years Primary Teachers' Training course, but the application was returned as it was not accompanied with the requisite fee. In October, 2009, the institution has made a fresh application for recognition.

Dropping out of children from schools

†3326. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no improvement is seen in the problem of children drop out from schools at the age of 6 to 13 years;

(b) if so, the number of children who had dropped out from schools in the academic year 2005 and 2009;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the tendency of dropping out from schools is more prevalent among the children belonging to Muslim community, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) if so, the national average of children apart from the average of children belonging to Muslim community, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who had dropped out from schools in the said years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) No, Sirs. Ministry of Human Resource Development collects the information on various educational indicators from the States/UTs annually through Selected Educational Statistics (SES). SES 2006-07 reveals decline in drop-out rate since 2001-02, including that of SCs/STs at primary and elementary level. At Primary level the drop-out has fallen by 13.6 percentage points from 2001 to 2006, compared to a decline of only 2.3 percentage points

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.